

CATALYST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

PART 1

MISSION AND STRATEGY OF CATALYST CHURCH

MISSION OF CATALYST CHURCH

WE EXIST TO CONNECT PEOPLE TO JESUS AND TO ONE ANOTHER.

*They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' **teaching** and to **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and to **prayer**. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. **Acts 2:42-47***

CATALYST CORE VALUES

WE ARE KNOWN AS A PEOPLE OF PRAYER

Prayer leads the way in everything we do.

WE LOVE WITH ACTION AT ALL TIMES

Our love for God is seen in the way we love one another.

WE DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REACH THE LOST

To reach people no one else is reaching we go where no one else is going.

WE OFFER JESUS OUR VERY BEST, NO MATTER WHAT

Excellence honors God and inspires people.

WE PRACTICE CRAZY GENEROSITY

It is truly more blessed to give than to receive.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF SERVICE

We are not afraid to get our hands dirty.

WE CELEBRATE A LIFE TRANSFORMED

Changed lives change lives.

PART 2

STATEMENTS OF BELIEF

In essentials we practice UNITY.

"There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to one hope when you were called - one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:4-6

WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIALS?

What we believe about :

- God
- Jesus
- Holy Spirit
- Bible
- Salvation

In non-essentials we practice LIBERTY.

"Everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial. Everything is permissible, but not everything is constructive." 1 Corinthians 10:23

WHAT ARE THE NON-ESSENTIALS?

- How to pray
- Watching R-rated movies
- What translation of the Bible you read, etc.

In all things we practice LOVE.

"By this all will men know that you are my disciples. If you love one another." John 13:357

What We Believe

About God

There is one God, eternally existing in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and each possesses all of the attributes of God. God is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe and everything in it.

About Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is one with God the Father and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is our Savior, who was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on a cross for all sin, and was raised from the grave after three days to demonstrate His defeat of sin and death. He ascended into heaven and will return again to earth to reign as our powerful King.

About The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is one with God the Father and Jesus Christ. Those who accept Christ as their Savior will receive the Holy Spirit to live inside them. The Holy Spirit serves as our comforter, guide and advocate. The Holy Spirit is given to Christians and provides guidance in living, an understanding of the Bible, and prayerfully intercedes for them.

About The Bible

Our foundation is based firmly upon the Bible as our final authority on Christian beliefs and as a guide to living. The Bible is divinely inspired by God, without error, given to man so that we may know and understand the truth of God and His love.

About Salvation

Salvation is not something that can be purchased or earned. It is a free gift from God provided by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and is received through faith. It is available to everyone who accepts Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. That faith is expressed through repentance of sin and baptism by immersion.

About Humanity

All people are made in the image of God and were created to live the adventure of following Jesus Christ. Although people have tremendous potential for good, we also have the freedom to do evil. Our disobedience toward God is called "sin" and that separates all humanity from God.

About Eternity

People were created to exist forever. Every person will either exist eternally in union with God, in heaven through following Jesus Christ or eternally separated from God in hell, due to our refusal to follow Him.

BAPTISM

Baptism is a first act of obedience. Everyone should be baptized who has repented of sin and confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Why should you be baptized?

1. To follow the **EXAMPLE** of Jesus.

"As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.'" Matthew 3:16-17

2. To follow the **COMMAND** of Jesus.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

FAQ'S

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

Everyone should be baptized who has repented of sin and confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

At CATALYST CHURCH, it is a membership requirement that every member must have been baptized by immersion, even though they might have been "sprinkled" as an infant and/or "confirmed" as a child.

At CATALYST CHURCH, we wait until our children are 13 years of age to ensure they are old enough to believe and understand the meaning of repentance and confession before we baptize them.

WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

As soon as you believe and repent, you should make plans for baptism.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IN ORDER TO GET BAPTIZED?

Sign up for baptism on the APP, online or by using a Connect Card. After signing up, you will be contacted and given a date and details for your orientation and baptism.

Orientation and baptism happens every first Sunday of the month.

We encourage you to invite your friends and relatives to attend.

CAN MY FAMILY BE BAPTIZED TOGETHER?

Yes! If each family member is of age, understands fully the meaning of baptism, and each one has believed and repented, we encourage families to be baptized at the same time. It is a wonderful expression of commitment.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR WHEN I AM BAPTIZED?

Wear a swimsuit/shorts/pants, and a t-shirt. Ladies, please wear conservative clothing and light make up. Avoid white or light-colored tops that become translucent when wet. Bring a change of clothes, towel, and a plastic bag for your wet clothes.

PART 3

STRUCTURE

“What is the CHURCH?”

The church means different things to different people:

- an organized religion (corporate structure)
- a religious building (sanctuary)
- social club (institutional)
- people with common beliefs (denominations)

The term “church” comes from a word that means, “**CALLED OUT ONES**”. It wasn’t until the fourth century that the word came to refer to a building.

The HEAD of the Church – J E S U S C H R I S T

*“And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church.”
Ephesians 1:22*

The LEADERS of the Church

The role of the leader is **FUNCTIONAL** rather than **P O S I T I O N A L**.

Specific functions include:

- Being built up by the Word (*Acts 20:32*)
- Shepherding the church (*Acts 20:28*)
- Watching out for perverted leaders (*Acts 20:29,31*)
- Preaching, teaching, and equipping (*Ephesians 4:12*)
- Ministering to the sick (*James 5:14*)
- Serving as examples (*1 Peter 5:3*)
- Refuting those who contradict Christ (*Titus 1:9-11*)
- Exercising discipline (*1 Timothy 3:5*)

Leaders’ Responsibilities to MEMBERS

Equip and train

“to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up” Ephesians 4:12

Shepherd the flock

“For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.” Acts 20:27-28

Teach and exhort

“Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,” 1 Timothy 3:2

Be an example

“not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” 1 Peter 5:3

Oversee needs

“not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” 1 Peter 5:3

The MEMBERS of the Church

The church members consists of those who have committed themselves to Jesus as Lord, trusted Him as Savior and have expressed this commitment in **REPENTANCE**, **CONFESSION** and **BAPTISM**.

Members' Responsibilities to LEADERS

Submission

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." Hebrews 13:17

Respect

"Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other." 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Receive no accusations

"Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses." 1 Timothy 5:19

MINISTRY STRUCTURE AT CATALYST CHURCH

Lead Catalyst:

- Preach the **WORD**
- Vision **CASTING**
- Lead the **STAFF**

Staff and Elders:

- Team and **TRUST**
- Elders **ESTABLISH** Policy
- Staff **ADMINISTER** Policy

Team Members – Church:

CARRY OUT the ministry

CATALYST CHURCH IS A NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH

CATALYST CHURCH is completely independent and autonomous. There is no denominational control or hierarchy as there are within denominations. We are self-governed and determine our own affairs.

PART 4

MEMBERSHIP

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER?

Having believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and received Him as my Lord and Savior through repentance, confession, and baptism, and being in agreement with CATALYST CHURCH strategy, statements, and structure, I now choose to unite with the CATALYST CHURCH family.

In doing so, I commit myself to do the following:

I WILL **BUILD** MY CHURCH.

- By connecting with others
- By investing and inviting
- By being discipled
- By making disciples

I WILL **PROTECT** MY CHURCH.

- By living a Godly life
- By acting in love towards other members
- By keeping unity of the Spirit

I WILL **SUPPORT** MY CHURCH.

- By praying for it's success
- By being present faithfully
- By tithing regularly

I WILL **SERVE** MY CHURCH.

- By developing a servant's heart
- By discovering my gifts and talents
- By using gifts to serve in local church

Please fill out the Membership Response to submit your membership decision and commitment.

CATALYST
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